

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-13 and 24-27 are pending, with Claims 14 - 23 cancelled by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, the drawings were objected to; Claims 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph; Claims 14-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; Claims 14-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Loh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,474,949, hereinafter Loh); Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated over Loh; Claims 19-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rast et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,530,778, hereinafter Rast); and Claims 1-13 and 24-27 were indicated as allowed.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of the allowable subject matter.

Claims 14-23 are cancelled so that allowed Claims 1-13 and 24-27 may pass to issue. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuation applications directed to the inventions recited in Claims 14 – 23. In view of the cancellation of Claim 14, Applicants submit that the objection to the figures is moot.

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment and in light of the previous discussion, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request an early and favorable action to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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